IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claims 1-10 and add Claims 11-12 as follows, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated coryneform bacterium which has an L-arginine- or L-lysine-producing ability, and wherein said bacterium is modified so that glutamine synthetase activity is enhanced as compared to a wild-type coryneform bacterium, and wherein said bacterium is also modified so that an activityexpression of an arginine repressor is reduced or eliminated as compared to a non-modified bacterium, by disrupting or mutating a chromosomal gene encoding the arginine repressor, wherein said arginine repressor comprises a protein which is 90% or more homologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO: 16, and wherein said glutamine synthetase activity is enhanced ~~either~~ by a method selected from the group consisting of:~~a modification that results in adenylation of glutamine synthetase being reduced or eliminated, or by increasing a copy~~ number of a gene encoding glutamine synthetase

A) replacing the tyrosine at position 405 with another amino acid in the protein of SEQ ID NO: 20 or in a protein which is 90% or more homologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO: 20, and

B) increasing the copy number of a gene encoding glutamine synthetase comprising an amino acid sequence which is 90% or more homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled).

5. (Withdrawn) The coryneform bacterium of claim 3, wherein a gene encoding the glutamine synthetase adenylyltransferase on a chromosome of said bacterium is disrupted.

6. (Withdrawn) The coryneform bacterium of claim 3, wherein the nitrogen metabolism regulation protein is an *amtR* gene product which does not function normally.

7. (Withdrawn) The coryneform bacterium of claim 6, wherein said *amtR* gene product on a chromosome of said bacterium is disrupted.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Canceled).

10. (Withdrawn) A method for producing L-arginine or L-lysine, comprising the steps of

a) culturing the coryneform bacterium according to claim 1 in a medium, and

b) allowing accumulation of L-arginine or L-lysine in the medium, and

c) collecting the L-arginine or L-lysine from the medium.

11. (New) An isolated coryneform bacterium which has an L-arginine- or L-lysine-producing ability, and wherein said bacterium is modified by a method selected from the group consisting of

A) replacing the tyrosine at position 405 with another amino acid in the glutamine synthetase of SEQ ID NO: 20, and

B) increasing the copy number of a gene encoding the glutamine synthetase comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20,

and wherein said bacterium is further modified so that a chromosomal gene encoding the arginine repressor is disrupted, wherein said arginine repressor comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16.

12. (New) A method for producing L-arginine or L-lysine, comprising:

(a) culturing the coryneform bacterium according to claim 11 in a medium,

(b) allowing the accumulation of L-arginine or L-lysine in the medium, and

(c) collecting the L-arginine or L-lysine from the medium.